



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

6 February 1985

MMB-5002

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Swaziland Bureau -- January 1985

I. GENERAL

1. Political Situation -- The political situation in Swaziland continues to simmer. Swaziland University was closed during the month and all students were told to reapply for admission. Those students who were members of a nongovernment-sanctioned student organization that had aroused government ire were not readmitted and two professors were suspended, reportedly for pro-ANC sympathies. After the university reopened on 4 February, students boycotted classes and threatened teachers and students who showed up for classes. Embassy personnel were warned to stay away from the university area and be wary of large groups of young people. Four high-level army and police officials who had been arrested for allegedly plotting against the government were granted bail on the 24th but were immediately rearrested for 60 days without trial. The same treatment was accorded a former finance minister who has been held by the government for months without charges. Several lower-level officials have been ousted and more firings are said to be in the offing.

2. Price Increases -- The price of petrol rose by an average of 42 percent during the month and airfares rose 8-10 percent and another rise is planned for April. The drastic price increases are due to the poor rand-dollar exchange rate. Although the rand had gained a few cents on the dollar at the end of the month, standing at \$1.97 to the rand, the rate did go as low as \$2.31. Six months ago the average rate was \$1.26 to the rand.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. On the 25th, RSA State President P. W. Botha opened parliament with a speech in which he offered to give everyone, including blacks,

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a "say at the highest level," granted blacks the right to hold property in certain areas and announced that consultations would be held on the topic of black political representation. The bureau filed advance reports from SAPA on the speech and texted it from English and Afrikaans from Johannesburg radio. At the request of Cape Town, where the U.S. Embassy has relocated for the summer, the speech was subsequently refiled to both Lusaka and Harare.

2. The U.S. Embassy in Harare alerted the bureau to a question-and-answer session which Prime Minister Mugabe was to hold in parliament on the 23d. The bureau monitored the session from very poor reception, provided an advance FYI on the key passages, and excerpted the section dealing with foreign policy and the activities of dissidents. Because of poor reception, the four-take English item had to be checked carefully by the editors.

3. At the request of the bureau, the Mbabane Embassy began providing copies of incoming and outgoing political reporting cables to the bureau for the information of the editors. At embassy request, the bureau processed a two-take Siswati speech by Prime Minister Bhekimpi at the opening of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) in Swaziland in which he defended Swaziland's ties with the RSA, which SADCC opposes. Reports that the meeting called for increased outside pressure on South Africa were not carried by Swazi media.

4. South African television was unmonitorable in Mbabane for much of the month due to continuing problems caused by lightning striking the Swazi relay transmitter. After many problems, the Swazis finally got the relay operational on 4 February. The bureau also temporarily lost the SAPA line on the 14th when the local PTT mistakenly disconnected the bureau's private line. Though PTT admitted the mistake, they would not reconnect the circuit without a letter from the bureau chief pointing out the error of their ways.

5. The bureau received thanks from the BBC Newsburo for its filing on the murder of two British citizens by RENAMO forces on the Mozambican-RSA border on 15 January.

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III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Buildings and Grounds

Electrical wiring has been upgraded in each of the residences to allow for installation of reverse-cycle air conditioning/heaters in the occupied bedrooms. Installation of the equipment has been completed in three of the residences. Wiring is still being done in the engineer's house.

The remote antenna site construction got underway with the installation of the antenna masts and grounding systems. The floor and foundation of the operations building has been poured and the walls are beginning to go up. Completion is estimated for mid-March.

Equipment for the remote site has been arriving throughout the month. One of the microwave racks has been installed in the bureau RTTY section. Towers have been fabricated and erected for the microwave dishes.

IV. VISITS

To the bureau:

STAT



Chief, EPS, from 30 Jan-1 February.

STAT



Chief, Swaziland Bureau

SWAZILAND BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR JANUARY 1985

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH	:	176,320
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH	:	11,770
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:		604

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	5,420	8,040	113
III. <u>OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:</u> (publishable words per month)	130,850	18,160	27,310

ANGOLA

Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese	20,170		
Luanda ANGOP in English		140	
Luanda ANGOP in French			

BOTSWANA

Gaborone Domestic Service in English	1,630		
Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English			140

CLANDESTINE

(Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe	350		
(Clandestine) Radio Truth in Ndebele to Zimbabwe			
(Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola	1,680		
(Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern & Central Africa		940	
(Clandestine) Voice of Truth in Portuguese to Angola	1,650		

LESOTHO

Maseru Domestic Service in English	1,390		
Maseru Domestic Service in seSotho			
Maseru LESOTHO WEEKLY in English			

MADAGASCAR

Antananarivo Domestic Service in French	240		
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CASTS AGENCIES CATIONS

MALAWI

Blantyre Domestic Service in
English
Blantyre DAILY TIMES in
English
Blantyre MALAWI NEWS in
English

730

MAURITIUS

Port Louis Domestic Service in
English
Port Louis Domestic Service in
French

MOCAMBIQUE

Maputo Domestic Service in
Portuguese
Maputo in
English to Southern Africa
Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in
Portuguese
Maputo NOTICIAS in
Portuguese
Maputo TEMPO in
Portuguese

15,600

5,390

3,240

NAMIBIA

Windhoek Domestic Service in
Afrikaans
Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in
Afrikaans
Windhoek DIE SUIDWESTER in
Afrikaans
Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in
English
Windhoek WINDHOEK OBSERVER in
English

550

380

SOUTH AFRICA

Johannesburg Domestic Service in
Afrikaans
Johannesburg Domestic Service in
English
Johannesburg International Service in
English
Johannesburg Television Service in
Afrikaans
Johannesburg Television Service in
English
Umtata Capital Radio in
English
Johannesburg SAPA in
English
Durban ILANGA in
Zulu
Johannesburg BEELD in
Afrikaans
Johannesburg CITY PRESS in
English

1,180

25,350

3,790

1,420

1,330

5,230

17,080

1,360

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL		
English		8,490
Johannesburg RAPPORT in		2,280
Afrikaans		
Johannesburg SOWETAN in		580
English		
Johannesburg SUNDAY EXPRESS in		1,020
English		
Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in		
English		
Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in		1,610
English		
Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in		
English		
Johannesburg THE STAR in		380
English		
Pretoria DIE TRANSVALER in		520
Afrikaans		
SWAZILAND		
Mbabane Domestic Service in	1,260	
English		
Mbabane Domestic Service in	80	
siSwati		
Mbabane Television Service in	670	
English		
Mbabane Television Service in	800	
siSwati		
Mbabane THE SWAZI NEWS in		
English		
Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in		1,370
English		
Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in		1,360
English		
UNITED KINGDOM		
London BBC World Service in	2,800	
English		
USSR		
Moscow in		
Ndebele to Zimbabwe		
Moscow in	4,070	
Zulu to Southern Africa		
ZAMBIA		
Lusaka Domestic Service in	10,340	
English		
Lusaka Voice of Namibia in	740	
English		
Lusaka Voice of Freedom in	9,010	
English to Southern Africa		
Lusaka SUNDAY TIMES OF ZAMBIA in		
English		
Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in		1,020
English		
Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in		
English		

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
ZIMBABWE			
Harare Domestic Service in English	13,950		
Harare Domestic Service in Ndebele			
Harare Voice of Namibia in English			
Harare THE HERALD in English			2,480
Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English			
Harare The Financial Gazette in English			530